

**UNOFFICIAL
STATE FIRE COMMISSION MEETING
VIENNA FIRE DEPARTMENT
VIENNA, WV
DECEMBER 7, 2007**

The official business meeting was called to order at 8:30 AM by Chairman Charles Eversole.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Charles L. Eversole, Chairman
John Bailey, Secretary
Larry Goodwin
Kenneth Morgan
Chuck Runyon
David Tolliver

Bill L. Spencer, Vice Chairman
Dale L. Clayton
Randy James
James L. Oldaker
Victor Stallard, Jr.

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Joseph J. Bostar, III

Francis A. Guffey, II

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Runyon made a motion to approve the minutes of October 19, 2007. Commissioner Spencer seconded the motion. The ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Bill Wilcox, Dept. of Education
Edward Hicks, Dept. of Education
Rick Rice, RESA I
Jim Ancell, RESA V
Roderick Armstrong, RESA V
Stan Traylor, RESA VI
Murrey Loflin, WVU-FSE
Ron Bateman, ISO
Robert Nevins, ISO
Joe Fratantaro, ISO
Chuck Peoples, WVOEMS
Mike Basile, Spilman, Thomas & Basile
Michael D. Reel, WVAHI
Joe Stankiewicz, Weirton VFD Co #1
Ben Roy, NFPA
David Laughlin, Oakland VFD
Brian Moran, Oakland VFD
Amy Burdick, Oakland VFD
Travis Robinson, Oakland VFD
Mike Mood, Middleway VFD
Roger Channell, Marion County/

Michael Younger, NCLETTTC
Bill Bailey, Bailey Insurance
Dave Camp, VFIS, WV
Danny Goodwin, Fire Chief, Vienna FD
Cathy, secretary, Vienna FD

STAFF PRESENT:

Sterling Lewis, Jr., State Fire Marshal
Nancy Olson, Secretary
Debbie Hudson, Secretary
Bradley Hartley, Assistant Fire Marshal

Fire Marshal Sterling Lewis, Jr. stated that Bradley Hartley and Mackey Ayersman were nominated and received the Fire Investigator of the year from the International Arson Investigators Association.

Chairman Eversole thanked the Vienna Fire Department for their hospitality in hosting the Fire Commission meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Short Creek VFD – Fire Marshal Lewis stated that a hearing was held on November 16, 2007 for complaints that were numerous. In the information packets, there is a recommendation from Commissioner Guffey who served as the hearings examiner. Fire Marshal Lewis stated that for clerical purposes, the verbiage used is withdrawal of recognition instead of decertifying. Commissioner Runyon made a motion to accept Commissioner Guffey's recommendation, the hearings examiner. Commissioner Spencer seconded the motion. The ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Commissioner Stallard made a motion that the Fire Commission withdraw recognition of the Short Creek VFD. Commissioner Runyon seconded the motion. The ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Staff will send out the notification letters to all parties involved.

Weirton Fire Department # and Weirton Heights Volunteer Fire Department

– Fire Marshal Lewis stated a hearing was held on November 16, 2007 and he referred the Commission to Commissioner Guffey's recommendation which was included in the information packets and has already been accepted.

Mr. Joe Stankiewicz stated this situation was started in 1972 by David Cline. He proposed that a small section of property outside of the City of Weirton which is not assigned to any fire department be assigned to Weirton Company #1. Fire Marshal Lewis explained that he has explained the Fire Commission cannot assign this area. They will have to approach the County Commission and state they want to start a new fire department. Then the County Commission will send a recommendation to the Fire Commission that they are recommending the new fire department have a run area

along with a map and everything that Phase I requires. There must be letters of support from the area fire departments.

Fire Marshal Lewis stated a number of attempts were made to contact Weirton #3 with no response. He stated it is staff's recommendation to include Weirton #2 and Weirton #3 together. Commissioner Spencer made a motion to accept Section B and C of Commissioner Guffey's recommendation. Commissioner Bailey seconded the motion. The ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Commissioner Spencer made a motion to withdraw recognition of Weirton #1 and Weirton #3. Commissioner Goodwin seconded the motion. The ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Middleway Volunteer Fire Company, Jefferson County, Phase I. Fire Marshal Lewis stated that Middleway Volunteer Fire Department has requested Phase I. Staff has reviewed everything and it is staff's recommendation to approve Phase 1. He stated there is a definite need for fire protection in that area because of the travel time of the surrounding fire departments. Commissioner Stallard made a motion to accept Phase I of the Middleway Volunteer Fire Department. Commissioner Tolliver seconded the motion. The ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Roger Channel, Marion County Fire Association. Mr. Channel stated he is attending on behalf of Bunners Ridge VFD and as president of the Marion County Fire Association. He stated there has been some problems with the 911 director. There is no set procedures for toning out fire departments and no set run areas. He stated they have approached the County Commission and explained to them the situation and have received no help. Much discussion followed.

Commissioner Stallard made a motion that staff do a fact finding investigation and bring the information back to the State Fire Commission to determine the potential violations of the code. Commissioner Runyon seconded the motion. The ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE

STAFF REPORTS

Fire Marshal Lewis stated that an email was received regarding Bakerton Fire Department in the Eastern Panhandle. This is a progress email and they are progressing. They have gone through the permits approval in the county. They have had their surveyor come out to layout the area. The community does not want this fire department. They are working toward building the fire station and they are providing fire protection.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Technical and Adult Training, Vo-Tech. Mr. Bill Wilcox stated the annual report of Public Service Training in West Virginia. He stated they were able to serve over 40,000 people this year. He stated Chairman Eversole, Commissioner Stallard met with

staff from WVU and RESA Coordinators and hammered out a memorandum of understanding between all parties. Chairman Eversole signed the agreement and after it is signed by all parties, it will go on file as an official addendum to the original agreement.

Chairman Eversole stated the ASSET Conference was a very good conference.

Training, WVU-FSE, Mr. Murrey Loflin thanked all parties who worked on the addendum agreement regarding ProBoard. Mr. Loflin stated the State Fire Academy is coming along very well. They hope to move in late January or early February. There are still issues with construction. He thanked the Fire Marshal's Office for helping the process along.

Mr. Loflin stated they have no firm date yet for the junior firefighter camp. They hope to schedule it the 3rd or 4th week of June. They are planning to have 125 campers and it will be a week long camp.

They are looking at locations for the state fire school. Maybe at the mine academy in the latter part of the summer or early fall. He hopes to have something definite by the February meeting.

He stated they are still planning on hosting the Fire Commission Meeting in April, 2008.

Training Committee, Commissioner Stallard stated the committee met by teleconference the past week with RESA and WVU. He stated there was one outstanding issue on the agenda and that is the Attorney General's opinion on oversight of training providers.

Insurance Services Office (ISO), Mr. Robert Nevins stated they are continuing to follow up with Bakerton Fire Department. They are in close communication with the Fire Chief. The last word they had earlier this week was they were starting the foundation.

Office of Emergency Medical Services, Mr. Chuck Peoples stated their office has moved. Still in the same building but down a floor. He stated this a busy time of the year. They have recertification of EMT cards. He stated they have a total of 9,936 certifications with 210 agencies. Discussion followed regarding using fire department funds to pay paramedics.

FD Standards Evaluation, Commissioner Oldaker stated no applications were submitted for certification of fire officers so there is no activity to report.

Recruitment and Retention Committee, Commissioner Runyon. No report.

Procedures Development Committee, Commissioner Bailey stated nothing to report.

Special Issues, Chairman Bostar – No report

Legislative and Budget, Commissioner Spencer stated he no nothing to report.

Home Inspectors, Building Code Officials, Building and Fire Code Committees, Commissioner Guffey – No report.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Commissioner Goodwin made a motion to retain the current officers. Commissioner Runyon seconded the motion. The ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held at the Days Inn, Flatwoods, WV on February 8, 2008. The Committee Meetings will be held on Thursday, February 7, 2008 at Days Inn, Flatwoods, WV. The April, 2008 meeting will be at WVU Training Center, Jackson's Mill, WV.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Fire Marshal Lewis thanked the Fire Commission for a good year on behalf of staff and wished everyone "Happy Holidays".

Fire Marshal Lewis welcomed members of the Oakland VFD who attended this meeting. They were here because of the Weirton issue.

Fire Marshal Lewis stated he is trying to work with Brickstreet regarding the fire service. Some discussion followed.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Runyon made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Tolliver seconded the motion. The ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Sterling Lewis, Jr.
State Fire Marshal